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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF OREGON

DIANE ROARK,

Case No.: 6:12-CV-01354-MC

Plaintiff,

v.

**DEFENDANT'S PROPOSED PLAN
FOR RETURN OF
ELECTRONICALLY STORED
INFORMATION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Defendant.

Pursuant to the Court's order dated May 4, 2015 (Dkt # 110),

Defendant the United States of America, by Billy J. Williams, Acting United States Attorney for the District of Oregon, and through James E. Cox, Jr., Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Oregon, submits this

proposed plan for the review and return of electronically stored information (“ESI”). The parties have conferred and been unable to reach agreement regarding a method for review and return of ESI on the computer seized during the July 26, 2007 search of Plaintiff’s residence. Thus, the government is submitting this proposed plan for the review of ESI in the event that Plaintiff wishes to have ESI from the computer returned to her.

The government has previously conducted and completed a return of ESI contained on hard drives at issue in the parallel Rule 41(g) action in the District of Maryland, *Wiebe v. Nat’l Security Agency, et al.*, District of Maryland Case No. 1:11-cv-3245. (Declaration of Charles E., ¶ 3.) The government proposes that the same procedure used to review ESI in the *Wiebe* case also be used in this case. (*Id.*) This procedure involves (1) identification of electronic files to be reviewed for return, (2) review, and (3) production. (*Id.*)

The first step in the process is to identify the types of files on the computer that are to be reviewed for return. (*Id.* at ¶ 4.) The government is willing to review any files that Plaintiff can identify that she would like returned. If Plaintiff does not know the file names of the files that she would like returned, then the government proposes that it review for return the common user created file types that may be located within Plaintiff’s user profile on Plaintiff’s computer hard drive.

Many of the files on a computer hard drive are system files that run the operating system or software on the computer. (*Id.*) System files generally have no functionality as independent files. (*Id.*) User-created files, on the other hand, are files created by a user of the computer, such as emails, word processing documents, spreadsheets, and photographs. (*Id.*) Thus, the government proposes that it review for return all of the following common user created file types that may be located within Plaintiff's user profile on Plaintiff's computer hard drive:

1. .doc (Microsoft Word file format)
2. .ppt (Microsoft PowerPoint file format)
3. .xls (Microsoft Excel file format)
4. .mdb (Microsoft Access file format)
5. .pdf (Adobe Portable Document Format file format)
6. .txt (Plain Text file format)
7. .rtf (Microsoft Rich Text Format file format)
8. .jpg (JPEG Image file format)
9. .msg (Microsoft Outlook file format)
10. .eml(x) (Apple mail message file format)
11. .mpg (MPEG video file format)
12. .wav (Waveform Audio file format)
13. .wmv (Windows Media Video file format)
14. .avi (Microsoft Audio Video Interleave file format)
15. .cat (Quicken Software)
16. .html (HyperText Markup Language file format)
17. .htm (HyperText Markup Language file format)
18. .dbx (Outlook Express email file format)
19. .flv (Adobe Flash Video file format)
20. .mp3 (MP3 audio file format)
21. .zip (Compressed archive file)
22. .wma (Windows Media Audio file format)
23. .wpd (WordPerfect file format)

(*Id.*) In addition, the government can also review for return the emails located within the AOL Personal File Cabinet (PFC) folders associated with Plaintiff's AOL email address. (*Id.* ¶ 5.)

Once the files to be reviewed are identified, these files will be reviewed for classified or protected information. (*Id.* ¶ 6.) The government proposes a two-step review process. (*Id.*) The National Security Agency ("NSA") and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence ("HPSCI") have each prepared key word search lists designed to identify files that may contain classified or protected information. (*Id.*) In the first step of the process, the government will conduct an automated search of the files to be reviewed with these key word lists. (*Id.*)

The second step of the process is a manual review of any files that return a "hit" from these key word lists. (*Id.* ¶ 7.) Any files that return a "hit" on the key word list prepared by NSA will be reviewed manually by NSA to determine if the file contains classified or protected information. (*Id.*) Likewise, any files that return a "hit" on the key word list prepared by HPSCI will be reviewed manually by HPSCI to determine if the file contains HPSCI information. (*Id.*) Any files that can only be reviewed manually – such as photographs – will be reviewed manually as well. (*Id.*)

Any files that contain classified or protected information will not be returned to Plaintiff. (*Id.* ¶ 8.) All other files within the scope of the review

will be returned to Plaintiff. (*Id.*) The government will copy these files onto a portable media (such as a CD or DVD), and deliver the portable media to Plaintiff. (*Id.*) Many of these files will be in their “native” format and will be fully-functional if opened with the appropriate software (such as Microsoft Word). (*Id.*) However, some of the less-common file formats – such as AOL email messages – cannot be extracted from the hard drive in their native format. (*Id.*) These files will be returned as plain text files. (*Id.*)

The government cannot provide an estimate for how long this review process will take because it does not know how many files must be manually reviewed. (*Id.* ¶ 9.) However, the government can provide an estimate once this information becomes available. (*Id.*)

DATED this 12th day of June 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

BILLY J. WILLIAMS
Acting United States Attorney
District of Oregon

/s/ James E. Cox, Jr.
JAMES E. COX, JR.
Assistant United States Attorney
Attorneys for Defendant

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing **Defendant's Proposed Plan for Return of Electronically Stored Information** was placed in a postage prepaid envelope and deposited in the United States Mail at Portland, Oregon on June 12, 2015, addressed to:

Diane Roark
2000 N. Scenic View Dr.
Stayton, OR 97383

And was sent via email to the following email address:

gardenofeden@wvi.com

/s/ Shari McClellan
SHARI McCLELLAN